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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/511,722	06/22/2005	David Wallach	WALLACH32	2522
1444	1444 7590 08/07/2006		EXAMINER	
BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.			WOODWARD, CHERIE MICHELLE	
624 NINTH STREET, NW SUITE 300 WASHINGTON, DC 20001-5303			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1647	
		DATE MAILED: 08/07/2006		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claims 22-27 and 42, drawn to a method for treatment comprising administering a polypeptide, an antibody, a nucleic acid, antisense, or a small molecule.

Group II, claims 43-48, drawn to a polypeptide fragment.

Group III, claims 49-51, drawn to a nucleic acid, a vector, and a host cell.

Group IV, claim 52, drawn to a method for producing a polypeptide fragment.

Group V, claim 53, drawn to an antibody.

Group VI, claim 54, drawn to a small molecule.

- Group VII, claims 75-85 and 89-95, drawn to a method for the treatment and or prevention of a disease in which activation of NF-κβ is involved comprising administering a polypeptide.
- Group VIII, claims 86-88, drawn to drawn to a method for the treatment and or prevention of a disease in which activation of NF-κβ is involved comprising administering a small molecule.
- 2. The inventions listed as Groups I-VIII do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: claim 22 lacks novelty as being anticipated by Sugamura et al., US Patent 5,510,259 (23 April 1996). Sugamura et al., teach administration of an antibody to an IL-2 receptor gamma chain molecule (cγc) for treatment of a patient with a disease (column 10, lines 46-57). Sugamura et al., teach anti-human cγc antibodies capable of inhibiting the binding between IL-2 receptor β and γ chains, thus preventing the transduction of signals from IL-2, which include activation of the NF-κβ pathway (column 10, lines 46-56), which includes activation of NIK and IKK. Sugamura et al., teach that these antibodies may be used as medicines for diagnosis and treatment of diseases which are considered to advance due to excessive or disordered production of IL-2 and for prevention of rejection at

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the time of organ transplantation, etc., column 10, lines 46-56). Sugamura et al., also teach immune response regulatory agents which contains a therapeutically effective amount of an antibody which is able to bind to an IL-2 cγc molecule (column 10, lines 46-56). The method of administering an antibody to an IL-2 receptor gamma chain (cγc) molecule to treat disease is known in the art and is not novel. Thus, the remaining claims lack the special technical feature.

In order to be fully responsive, in addition to an election of ONE of the above listed inventions, Applicant must elect ONE corresponding SEQ ID NO to be searched. Applicant's claims are drawn to several cyc fragments, claimed as various SEQ ID NOs. The different SEQ ID NOs must be restricted because it is necessary to employee different search queries for each of the unique and distinct sequences in order to properly identify any known antibodies which bind to the particular claimed fragment of the cyc molecule.

Further, If Group I is elected, Applicant must elect ONE of the following compositions to be administered:

- A. A polypeptide
- B. An antibody
- C. A nucleic acid
- D. An antisense molecule
- E. A small molecule

Additional restriction of Group I is required because the claimed method encompasses administration of different types of moieties. Each of the above moieties are structurally and functionally different, one from the other, are classified in separate classes, and it is necessary to employee different search queries for each moiety.

3. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point

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out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

- 4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).
- 5. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and the product claims are subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder. All claims directed a nonelected process invention must require all the limitations of an allowable product claim for that process invention to be rejoined.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103 and 112. Until all claims to the elected product are found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowable product claim will not be rejoined. See MPEP § 821.04(b). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution to require the limitations of the product claims. Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder. Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cherie M. Woodward whose telephone number is (571) 272-3329. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 9:00am-7:30pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brenda Brumback can be reached on (571) 272-0961. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pairdirect.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CMW

MARIANNE P. ALLEN PRIMARY EXAMINER 8/3/06